



Periodic Review / Retain Regulation Agency Background Document

Agency name	Board for Contractors
Virginia Administrative Code (VAC) citation	18 VAC 50-22
Regulation title	Board for Contractors Regulations
Document preparation date	December 21, 2011

This form is used when the agency has done a periodic review of a regulation and plans to retain the regulation without change. This information is required pursuant to Executive Orders 14 (2010) and 58 (1999).

Legal basis

Please identify the state and/or federal legal authority for the regulation, including (1) the most relevant law and/or regulation, and (2) promulgating entity, i.e., agency, board, or person.

Code of Virginia § 54.1-201.5 gives authority to the Board which states, in part, that the Board has the power and duty "To promulgate regulations in accordance with the Administrative Process Act (§ [2.2-4000](#) et seq.) necessary to assure continued competency, to prevent deceptive or misleading practices by practitioners and to effectively administer the regulatory system administered by the regulatory board." § 54.1-1102 of the Code of Virginia provides the authority for the Board to promulgate regulations for the licensure of contractors in the Commonwealth.

Alternatives

Please describe all viable alternatives for achieving the purpose of the existing regulation that have been considered as part of the periodic review process. Include an explanation of why such alternatives were rejected and why this regulation is the least burdensome alternative available for achieving the purpose of the regulation.

No viable alternatives for achieving the purpose of the existing regulation could be determined. The regulation enables the Board to fulfill the statutory requirements established in Chapters 2 and 11 of Title 54.1 of the *Code of Virginia*. Further, the regulation is necessary to ensure that the Board's statutory requirements are executed in the least burdensome and most efficient and cost effective manner possible while protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Virginia

Public comment

Please summarize all comments received during the public comment period following the publication of the Notice of Periodic Review, and provide the agency response. Please indicate if an informal advisory group was formed for purposes of assisting in the periodic review.

Commenter	Comment	Agency response
Michael G Frizell, Catbird Seat Associates LLC	Suggest changing the tradesman license term from two to three years. Note – This comment was inadvertently posted to 18 VAC 50-22 Board for Contractors Regulations rather than 18 VAC 50-30 Board for Contractors – Individual License and Certification Regulations.	The Board for Contractors adopted to retain the regulation without change. The Board is mandated to comply with the provisions of the § 54.1-113 of the Code of Virginia, which requires a biennial review of fees to determine whether or not an adjustment to fees is required. The switch to a three year license would reduce the accuracy of biennial budget projections making it difficult to accurately determine fee requirements. Additionally, the increase to a three year licensing cycle would require an adjustment to fees, which could be perceived as a fee increase. After reviewing the request the Board has determined that changing the tradesman licensure term is not feasible at this time.

An informal advisory group was not formed for purposes of assisting in the periodic review.

Effectiveness

Please indicate whether the regulation meets the criteria set out in Executive Order 14 (2010), e.g., is necessary for the protection of public health, safety, and welfare, and is clearly written and easily understandable.

The regulation meets the criteria set forth in Executive Order 14 (2010). The regulation establishes the education, examination, and experience requirements to become a Virginia licensed contractor. The regulation requirements provide minimum competency standards to provide necessary public protection. The regulation is clearly written and understandable.

Result

Please state that the agency is recommending that the regulation should stay in effect without change.

The agency is recommending that the regulation stay in effect without change.

Small business impact

In order to minimize the economic impact of regulations on small business, please include, pursuant to § 2.2-4007.1 E and F, a discussion of the agency's consideration of: (1) the continued need for the regulation; (2) the nature of complaints or comments received concerning the regulation from the public; (3) the complexity of the regulation; (4) the extent to which the regulation overlaps, duplicates, or conflicts with federal or state law or regulation; and (5) the length of time since the regulation has been evaluated or the degree to which technology, economic conditions, or other factors have changed in the area affected by the regulation. Also, include a discussion of the agency's determination whether the regulation should be amended or repealed, consistent with the stated objectives of applicable law, to minimize the economic impact of regulations on small businesses.

- 1) Code of Virginia §§ 54.1-201.5 and 54.1-1102 mandates the Board for Contractors to promulgate regulations. The continued need for the regulation is established in statute. Repeal of the regulation would remove the current public protections provided by the regulation. The regulation does not have an adverse economic impact on small businesses. Rather, the regulation allows businesses that meet specific minimum competencies to become Virginia licensed contractors.
- 2) One comment was received during the public comment period that suggested changing the license term for tradesman.
- 3) The regulation is clearly written and is easily understandable.
- 4) The regulation does not overlap, duplicate or conflict with federal or state law or regulation.
- 5) The most recent evaluation occurred in 2010 which resulted in amendments to increase fees in order to ensure that the Board for Contractors remains in compliance with § 54.1-113 of the Code of Virginia. The fee amendment went into effect April 1, 2010. A subsequent emergency regulation amendment, effective 2010, changed the existing regulation to include a provision to address temporary license requirements pursuant to Acts of the 2010 General Assembly. Currently, an emergency amendment is pending executive branch review. The emergency amendment creates residential building energy analyst firm licensure for firms pursuant to Acts of the 2011 General Assembly. No changes, including changes in technology and economic conditions, have been identified that would affect licensed contractors or firms seeking licensure as a contractor.

The Board discussed the regulation and, for the reasons stated in this section, determined that the regulation should not be amended or repealed, but should be retained in its current form.

Family impact

Please provide an analysis of the regulation's impact on the institution of the family and family stability.

No impact on the institution of the family and family stability has been identified.